

Notice of a Basin Plan Public Hearing Regarding:

**Revisions to the Groundwater Basin And Subbasin Boundaries;
Revisions of the Total Dissolved Solids and Nitrate Groundwater Water Quality Objectives; and
Revision of TDS and Nitrogen Wasteload Allocations**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (Regional Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan). The public hearing will be held at the regularly scheduled Regional Board Meeting on January 22, 2004 at the following time and location:

DATE: January 22, 2004
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: City of Loma Linda Council Chambers
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda

Discussion

During the 1995 revision of the Basin Plan, a number of wastewater and water supply agencies expressed concern that the total dissolved solids (TDS)/Nitrogen Management Plan specified in the Basin Plan limits available wastewater reclamation opportunities in this area of rapidly increasing water demand. These agencies, through the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, have been conducting a watershed-wide evaluation of the TDS/Nitrogen Management Plan that has resulted in proposed revisions of the groundwater basin and subbasin boundaries, revisions of the total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate water quality objectives for the re-defined groundwater subbasins, and revisions to the TDS and nitrogen wasteload allocations. TDS and nitrate objectives based on providing "maximum benefit to the people of the state" are also proposed for several groundwater subbasins.

The proposed Basin Plan amendment, staff report that discusses the proposed amendment and possible alternatives, and an Environmental Checklist that evaluates the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts as a result of the amendment are available upon request to Board staff at (909) 782-4130 or may be obtained from the Regional Board's website at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb8>. The staff report and related documents may also be reviewed at the Regional Board office located at 3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, California, by appointment scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the office at (909) 782-4130. Comments or questions regarding this matter should be directed to Hope Smythe at (909) 782-4493.

Public participation is an important part of this process. The Regional Board will accept written and oral testimony at or prior to the hearing. For the sake of the accuracy of the record, please provide written copies of oral comments. Comments should be submitted to Hope Smythe at the address listed above or by e-mail at hsmythe@rb8.swrcb.ca.gov. Written responses to comments received by January 12, 2004 will be prepared.

Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodation to participate in the Regional Board hearing should contact Barbara Laffoon at (909) 782-3285 no later than January 13, 2004.

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

Date